

REMARKS

In the foregoing amendments, claims 12, 13, 19, and 20 are amended to correct minor informalities; claims 1-7 are canceled without prejudice, disclaimer, or waiver; and claims 21-27 are added. Claims 8-27 are now pending in the present application.

I. Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants wish to express their appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in which claims 8-20 are allowable and claims 6 and 7 would be allowable if re-written to include the subject matter of the base claim and any intervening claim.

II. Amendments to the Specification

The Examiner requested Applicants' cooperation to correct any errors in the specification of which the Applicants may become aware. In this respect, the specification has been checked and minor informalities have been corrected herein.

III. Response to Claim Objections

Claim 2 was objected to because of a minor informality. Since claim 2 has been canceled herein, this objection is rendered moot.

IV. Response to 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph Rejection

The Office Action objected to the language "the group consisting of..." as recited in claims 4, 10, and 17, particularly that "the group" has insufficient antecedent basis. However, it should be pointed out that this language follows an acceptable format for defining alternative language as set forth in MPEP 2173.05(h). Therefore, the term "the group" as used herein does not refer to any group that antecedes this term, but instead refers to the group of elements following the terms "consisting of". If, perhaps, the Examiner prefers different language for defining this claim language, then the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to discuss possible alternatives.

V. Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Fong et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0154718) in view of *Masleid et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,532,544). Also, claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Fong et al.* in view of *Masleid et al.*, and further in view of *Liepe* (U.S. Patent No. 6,788,754).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. However, in order to advance prosecution, claims 1-7 have been canceled by amendment herein and the above-referenced rejections are therefore considered to be moot. Applicants reserve the right to file the canceled claims in a continuation application if desired.

VI. New Claims

Claims 21-27 have been newly added to further define and/or clarify the scope of the invention. Applicants assert that the new claims include features that are not taught or suggested in the prior art and are therefore patentable over the prior art of record. Particularly, independent claim 21 includes a register, a clock receiver, at least one clock buffer, a data receiver, and at least one data delay device. The at least one data delay device is configured to substantially match the delay of the clock signal from the clock receiver to the clock input of the register with the delay of the data signal from the data receiver to the data input of the register.

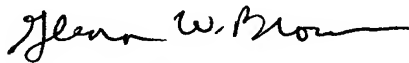
VII. Prior Art Made of Record

The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 8-27 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



Glenn W. Brown
Reg. No. 51,310

**THOMAS, KAYDEN,
HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.**
Suite 1750
100 Galleria Parkway N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(770) 933-9500

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 08-05-05



Signature -

Attachment(s): Replacement Sheet(s)

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the drawing sheets showing FIGS. 1-4 with the newly-submitted sheets attached herewith. Please note that FIGS. 1-4 have been amended to maintain uniform line thickness, to more clearly designate reference characters, and for other reasons. FIGS. 2 and 4 have been amended to label the "RECEIVE LOGIC" with reference character "144, 114" as defined in the specification on pages 5-7. Also, please note that FIG. 3 has been amended to correct minor grammatical errors in blocks 204 and 208.